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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/799,356	03/12/2004	Robert L. Chambers	M61.12-0601	6338

27366 7590 04/17/2009

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EXAMINER

ABEBE, DANIEL DEMELASH

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2626

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

04/17/2009

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/799,356

Applicant(s)

CHAMBERS ET AL.

Examiner

Daniel D. Abebe

Art Unit

2626

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 February 2009.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,5,6,8,10,11,13 and 14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,5,6,8,10,11,13 and 14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 1 recites the limitation "the detected predefined prefix" in 9. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1, 5, 6, 8, 10, 11, 13 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Gong et al. (20070179778).

As to claim 1, Gong teaches a method for recognizing speech, the method comprising:

Employing a computing device to recognize a category selector first voice field, the first voice field being associated with a first grammar from a plurality of grammars and where the field is associated to different application (Par.0018);

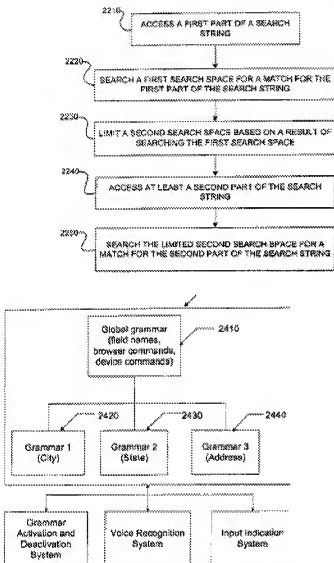
recognizing a first voice field (first part of search string);

Selecting the corresponding grammar to recognize a second voice field in accordance to the first voice field;

Recognizing the second voice input that is following the first voice input using the selected second grammar that is selected by the first voice field (Pars.0171-0173, 0188, 0212-0214); and

Directing the recognized text (command) to a target associated with the first set of grammars, where the target category include applications available on the mobile device (Pr.0004—0012; Par.0084; Par. 0212; section 2; Fig.14-22)

According to Gong, an implementation may include a first grammar activated from among a plurality of independent grammars, the first grammar being identified **with a first input category**. spoken data related to the first input category is input, and the spoken data is matched to stored data within the first grammar.



As to claims 5-6, Gong teaches where the "prefix" includes words or group of words/phrase (Par.0209).

As to claim 8, Gong teaches where the voice input representing the first search string (prefix) and the selected grammar are specified in a predetermined category (abstract).

As to claims 10-11, Gong teaches where the is executed upon computers and mobile device (Fig.1-10).

As to claims 13-14, the corresponding speech recognition system where the process is adapted to perform the method of claim 1 is analogous to the claims above and therefore rejected by Gong for the foregoing reasons.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 2/13/2009 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Gong teaches a method for enhancing speech recognition accuracy and efficiency by selecting a grammar that will be used to recognize the spoken command. Gong teaches where the grammar is divided into a plurality of smaller grammars and the search grammar for a word is constrained to the selected grammar based on the first voice field (a prefix).

.According to Gong a spoken phrase is broken into a first and a second string where the first string is used as category (application) field to select the category and the associated grammar used for recognizing the second string and once the grammar is selected the second voice string is matched to the selected grammar (Par.0005, 0010). Gong abundantly teaches where the method is used for different applications and purposes including where the target categories that are selected by voice fields comprise web pages, forms, directories and etc...

The claims were amended to include a limitation where the **target category for the recognized word is a software application.**

The examiner contends that this addition of the intended use of the method doesn't patentably overcome the Gong patent because Gong doesn't limit the applications that are associated with the categories and he further teaches where the target categories that is selected by the first input voice field comprise user interface for different type of applications. According to Gong, a user interface of the system may allow a user to gain access to data, such as, for example, products in a catalog database, or to enter data into a system, such as, for example, entering customer information into a customer database. User interfaces are used for applications residing on relatively stationary computing devices, such as desktop computers, as well as for applications residing on mobile computing devices, such as laptops, palmtops, and portable electronic organizers. A voice-activated user interface can be created to provide data access and entry to a system, and voice input may be particularly appealing for mobile devices. (Par.0166-0168).

thus the examiner submits that the present invention is anticipated by Gong and maintains the rejection for the foregoing reasons.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daniel D. Abebe whose telephone number is 571-272-7615. The examiner can normally be reached on monday-friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Hudspeth can be reached on 571-272-7843. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Daniel D Abebe/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2626

